

Factors impacting trucks & trailers operating on State & Federal Routes while hauling overwidth implements of husbandry	Notes	Applicable Widths (Checked areas indicate that the stipulation does apply)				
		Legal Truck Width or Less	Wider than Legal Truck Width	Wider Than 10'	Wider Than 14' 6"	Wider Than 16'
Permits are not required	(1)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Local jurisdiction may require permits	(2)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Operation prohibited after dark	(3)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Flags required	(4)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Wide load sign required	(5)			✓	✓	✓
Flashing amber light required	(6)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Escort (1) required	(7)				✓	✓
Escorts (2) required	(8)					✓
Route must be checked in advance	(9)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Restricted within construction zones	(10)		✓	✓	✓	✓
Maximum speed 45 mph	(11)		✓	✓	✓	✓

Notes

- The exemption from permits applies only to overwidth loads of implements of husbandry (farm equipment). All other loads over the legal width of the truck or trailer may be required to have an over-dimensional permit. Overweight loads also require a permit). For more information on permits contact the Illinois Department of Transportation Bureau of Operations at 800-252-8636 or 217-782-6271.
- Some local jurisdictions (i.e. county, township or city) may establish permit requirements for wide loads of farm equipment to travel their roads or streets. Check with your local jurisdiction for information on local overwidth ordinances
- These overwidth loads are allowed on public roads except during those times when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet and then only during the period from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset.
- Flags shall be displayed so as to wave freely at the extremities of overwidth objects and at the extreme ends of all protrusions, projections, and overhangs. All flags must be clean, bright red flags with no advertising, wording, emblem or insignia inscribed upon them and at least 18 inches square.
- "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory on the front and rear of all vehicles with loads over 10 feet wide. These Signs must have 12-inch high black letters with a 2-inch stroke on a yellow sign that is 7 feet wide by 18-inches high.
- A transport vehicle while under load of more than 8 feet 6 inches in width must be equipped with illuminated rotating, oscillating or flashing amber lights or flashing amber strobe lights mounted on the top of the cab or on the load that are of sufficient intensity to be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight. If the load blocks visibility of the amber light from the rear, a light must be displayed at the rear of the vehicle.
- Loads over 14'6" must be accompanied by one escort vehicle. (See section on escort vehicles for additional requirements.)
- Loads over 16' must be accompanied by two escort vehicles. (See Section on escort vehicles for additional requirements.)
- The driver of any overwidth vehicle is required to verify, in advance, that the route chosen for travel is capable of accommodating the load that is to be hauled. It may be well to utilize a rule of thumb incorporated by the Illinois Department of Transportation in approving permits for overwidth

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| <p>9 loads—the load should be at least 18” narrower in overall width than the narrowest barrier along the route. Overhang extending over guardrails or handrails may be allowed if there is ample vertical clearance between the railing and the object. If the vehicle is involved in a collision with a bridge, overpass, fixed structure or properly placed traffic control device or if the vehicle blocks traffic due to its inability to proceed because of one of those objects, that serves as “prima facie” evidence that you failed to check the roadway prior to making the movement and you may be issued a ticket on that basis.</p> | <p>10 Loads of implements of husbandry are restricted to widths less than those posted at construction zones or listed in the document Weekly Restriction List at: www.dot.il.gov/road/restrlst.rtf .</p> <p>Loads greater than 16” wide are prohibited from movement in all construction zones. Construction Zones are identified on the Road Construction Map at: www.gettingaroundillinois.com . For all loads greater than 16” wide you must call the Permit Office prior to movement at (217) 782-6271.</p> <p>11 All trucks with overwidth loads are restricted to a maximum of 45 miles per hour or 5 miles per hour over the minimum posted speed.</p> |
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The requirements for a civilian escort vehicle and driver are as follows:

Loads of implements of husbandry (farm equipment) more than 14’ 6” in width are subject to escort vehicle requirements when operating on state or federal routes—those on the National System of Interstate and Defense highways or other highways in the system of State highways.

Either one or two escort(s) may be required depending on the width of the load. One escort vehicle is required for a load that exceeds 14’ 6” in width and two escort vehicles are required for a load that exceeds 16’ in width.

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| <p>1 The civilian escort vehicle shall be a passenger car or a second division vehicle not exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 8,000 pounds that is designed to afford clear and unobstructed vision to both front and rear.</p> <p>2 The escort vehicle driver must be properly licensed to operate the vehicle.</p> <p>3 While in use, the escort vehicle must be equipped with illuminated rotating, oscillating or flashing amber lights or flashing amber strobe lights mounted on top that are of sufficient intensity to be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.</p> <p>4 “OVERSIZE LOAD” signs are mandatory on all escort vehicles. The sign on an escort vehicle shall have 8 inch high black letters on a yellow sign that is 5 feet wide and 12 inches high.</p> <p>5 When only one escort vehicle is required and it is operating on a two-lane highway, the escort vehicle shall travel approximately 300 feet ahead of the load. The rotating, oscillating or flashing lights or flashing amber strobe lights and an “OVERSIZE LOAD” sign shall be displayed on the escort vehicle and shall be visible from the front. When only one escort vehicle is required and it is operating on a multilane divided highway, the escort vehicle shall travel approximately 300 feet behind the load and the sign and lights shall be visible from the rear.</p> | <p>6 When 2 escort vehicles are required, one escort shall travel approximately 300 feet ahead of the load and the second escort shall travel approximately 300 feet behind the load. The rotating, oscillating or flashing lights or flashing amber strobe lights and an “OVERSIZE LOAD” sign shall be displayed on the escort vehicles and shall be visible from the front on the lead escort and from the rear on the trailing escort.</p> <p>7 When traveling within the corporate limits of a municipality, the escort vehicle shall maintain a reasonable and proper distance from the oversize load, consistent with existing traffic conditions.</p> <p>8 A separate escort shall be provided for each load.</p> <p>9 The driver of an escort vehicle shall obey all traffic laws.</p> <p>10 The escort vehicle must be in safe operational condition.</p> <p>11 The driver of the escort vehicle must be in radio contact with the driver of the vehicle carrying the oversize load.</p> |
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